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Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

Attention: Deputy Director, Plans

Dear Sir:

For your information, I am enclosing
communications which may be of interest to you.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

1 RH H/W
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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONFORM NO. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

WASHINGTON FIELD

FILE NO.

DFB-24257

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| REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES | DATE WHEN 1/14/53 | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 10/1-12/30/52 | REPORT MADE BY EDWARD E. ABBOTT |
| TITLE YUGOSLAV ACTIVITIES IN THE UNITED STATES | | | CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - YU |

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

MIODRAG VITOROVIC, Yugoslav Vice Consul from San Francisco, visited Los Angeles in August and October, 1952. He contacted T-1, of known reliability, a Yugoslav displaced person, and he did not reveal his position as Vice Consul of the Yugoslav Government. He offered to give T-1 any money he might need, but did not actually give him any money, and in return he desired information regarding the Macek group in Los Angeles. RAPO IVANCEVIC, Yugoslav Consul General from San Francisco, visited Los Angeles and San Pedro, California during the latter part of November, 1952. NICHOLAS A. MUICK attempted to put through the Articles of Incorporation and By-laws for a new Yugoslav club called the Yugoslav American Civic Club, but he was unable to do so because the By-laws were considered too radical. The last of the Yugoslav relief funds collected in the Los Angeles area have been distributed. Activities of the Slavic Council of Southern California continue to diminish. Judge HALL's decision holding that the extradition treaty between Yugoslavia and United States is not now in effect and ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIC could not be extradited to Yugoslavia under this treaty, was an unpopular decision in the pro-Tito Yugoslav circles.

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③ INDEX

SECURITY INFORMATION

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-58827-1

4-1-5

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DETAILS:

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

All informants designated by "T" symbols in this report are of known reliability unless otherwise indicated.

I. PRO-TITO ACTIVITIES IN THE UNITED STATES

A. Intelligence Activities

MIODRAG VITOROVIC, Yugoslav Vice Consul from San Francisco, on August 19, 1952 visited T-1, a Yugoslav displaced person, and VITOROVIC introduced himself as MILAN and said he was from San Francisco. He talked about mutual friends in Vienna, Austria. At this time, he did not furnish T-1 with his last name.

On October 20, 1952, MIODRAG VITOROVIC again visited T-1, and at this time requested T-1 to join a Catholic Croation Church in Los Angeles and obtain information concerning the Macek group. He told T-1 that the Macek group is an anti-Tito Yugoslav group which is spreading undesirable propaganda against the Tito Government. VITOROVIC offered to give T-1 any money that T-1 might need, and on being questioned as to why he was willing to give T-1 money, he merely replied that he was a fellow countryman of T-1 and for that reason would be glad to furnish T-1 with any money that T-1 might need. However, he did not give T-1 any money, nor did he reveal his position as Vice Consul; but he did, however, at this time give his last name.

MIODRAG VITOROVIC during his visit to Los Angeles from October 21 to 24, 1952 contacted also Reverend MIRKO VUISICH, JACK DESPOL, Dr. UROS STAMBUK, PETER SAMARDZICH, NICHOLAS MUICK, and two other persons not yet identified.

T-2 stated that Reverend MIRKO VUISICH, JACK DESPOL, and NICHOLAS MUICK are all known to be friends of the Yugoslav Consul at San Francisco, and they are additional sources of information for the Yugoslav Consulate. T-2 stated that Reverend MIRKO VUISICH has a daughter who is employed as a secretary by the Yugoslav Consul General at San Francisco.

T-2 is not well acquainted with Dr. UROS STAMBUK and PETER SAMARDZICH, but from what he has heard, he believes these persons are pro-Tito Yugoslavs who are useful to the

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Yugoslav Consul General. The purpose of VITOROVIC's visit to these people is not known, but from information furnished by T-1 and T-2, it is believed that VITOROVIC's purpose was to obtain information concerning activities of Yugoslavs in the Los Angeles area.

B. Political and Propaganda Activities

T-3 advised that the newly formed American Civic Club met October 25, 1952. NICHOLAS A. MUICK, the leader of it, proposed a set of By-laws and Incorporation Articles, and tried to put them through, but was not successful and so no By-laws have been adopted and the club has not been incorporated. At this meeting, it was decided, however, that the name would be the Yugoslav American Civic Club. NICHOLAS A. MUICK, Reverend MIRKO VUISICH, MATH KOVACEVICH, and IVO LOPIZICH are the leaders. According to T-2 and T-3, all the persons of this club are pro-Tito, and are friendly with officials of the Yugoslav Consulate at San Francisco.

T-2 stated that no meetings of this club were held in December because of inclement weather. T-2 further stated that this club was formed under the inspiration and guidance of RAPO IVANCEVIC, Yugoslav Consul General, and that the purpose of it is to afford a convenient propaganda vehicle for the Yugoslav Government. The By-laws proposed were considered too radical, according to T-2.

T-2 advised that RAPO IVANCEVIC came to Los Angeles, November 28, 1952 and stayed at the home of NICHOLAS A. MUICK. On the evening of the 28th, MATH KOVACEVICH, prominent Yugoslav real estate dealer in Los Angeles, entertained IVANCEVIC together with a number of prominent Yugoslav individuals. The main feature of the entertainment was the showing of a film, which MATH KOVACEVICH had taken during his three months stay in Yugoslavia in the summer of 1952. Present at this meeting also were (Mr. and Mrs.) MIKE RADICH, who had also visited Yugoslavia in the summer of 1952. Both KOVACEVICH and RADICH told the people present that they had been treated well in Yugoslavia. It was observed by T-2 that the movie shown by KOVACEVICH included pictures of RAPO IVANCEVIC's relatives and also of MUICK's relatives. The movie also included pictures of Marshal TITO who had afforded KOVACEVICH an audience.

On November 29, 1952, according to T-4, RAPO IVANCEVIC visited San Pedro, California in connection with a Yugoslav holiday known as "Unification Day". IVANCEVIC while in San Pedro attended the celebration held at the

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Yugoslav American Club in San Pedro where some 250 people had gathered. IVANCEVIC made a talk, and also JOSEPH J. ZANINOVICH and VINCE MARICH made talks. These latter two individuals are Secretary and President of the Yugoslav American Club at San Pedro.

T-4 stated that in his opinion the Yugoslav American Club in San Pedro does not function as well under the leadership of VINCE MARICH as it formerly did under the more conservative leadership of JACK DESPOL. Both VINCE MARICH and JOSEPH J. ZANINOVICH are regarded by T-4 as somewhat pro-Cominform, although they are ostensibly friendly with RAFO IVANCEVIC, Yugoslav Consul General.

T-2 stated that in August of 1952, MATH KOVACEVICH made a trip to Yugoslavia, and took with him \$300 which was given to him by the Yugoslav relief organization in Los Angeles called Direct American Relief to Yugoslavia (DARY). This \$300 represented the remainder of funds collected by DARY. KOVACEVICH distributed one half of this to needy persons in his birthplace in Yugoslavia, and the other half to various other needy persons. In addition, MATH KOVACEVICH took to Yugoslavia money entrusted to him by his friends in Los Angeles, and he distributed this money among the relatives and friends of the donors. This money amounted to \$5,000.

T-4 stated that in San Pedro, the Yugoslav relief organization wound up its activities in the fall of 1952 by spending the remainder of its funds for medical equipment which it sent to Yugoslavia. According to T-4, the Yugoslav colony in San Pedro did not feel certain that money sent to Yugoslavia for relief would actually be spent for the needy persons so that this medical equipment was purchased.

No further activities by the Yugoslav relief organization are contemplated.

II. PRO-COMINFORM YUGOSLAV ACTIVITIES IN THE UNITED STATES

A. Intelligence Activities

No intelligence activities reported.

B. Political and Propaganda Activities

(3) T-5 stated there was an all Slav picnic, October 5, 1952, at 330 South Ford Boulevard, Los Angeles, which was

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18 sponsored by the Slavic Council of Southern California. Less than 250 persons were present in contrast to former occasions when well over 2,000 persons used to be on hand for these occasions. The speaker of the day was SOPHIE DAVIDSON, Executive Secretary of the Committee to Secure Justice for the Rosenbergs. She mentioned that the ROSENBERGS were sentenced to die "for an act they did not commit because Russia five years before the ROSENBERG sentence actually had the Atom Bomb by their own efforts." The donations received in connection with this affair were considered very small, and T-5 stated that the interest in the Slavic Council of Southern California has dwindled to the point where this organization barely keeps functioning.

T-6 advised the Slavic Council of Southern California held its monthly meeting, October 12, 1952, at 3300 City Terrace Drive, Los Angeles. At this meeting, a motion was made to send a representative to the THUMAN Commission on Immigration and Naturalization to protest the provisions of the McCarran Act.

T-6 stated the Slavic Council of Southern California held a meeting November 10, 1952 at 3300 City Terrace Drive, Los Angeles, and that most of the meeting was devoted to a proposal for this organization to have a dinner in celebration of the fourth year of the Slavic Council bulletin, "The Slavic American News".

T-6 stated that in 1951 the Slavic Council of Southern California was an affiliate of the American Slav Congress. The American Slav Congress has been cited by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

III. MISCELLANEOUS YUGOSLAV ACTIVITIES IN THE UNITED STATES

A. Intelligence Activities

No intelligence activities reported.

B. Political and Propaganda Activities

T-7 advised that friends of ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIC were happy that Federal Judge PEIRSON M. HALL handed down a decision that the extradition treaty between the United States and Yugoslavia is not now in effect because it was drawn

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up between the United States and the Kingdom of Serbia at which time Croatia was a part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. This ruling has been appealed by the United States Attorney, WALTER S. BINNS, to a higher court, but United States Attorney BINNS remarked to the writer that he believed the ruling of Judge HALL in this case might well be sustained as it appeared to rest on a solid legal basis. The pro-Tito group in Los Angeles, according to T-2 and T-3, resent the opinion handed down by Judge HALL in this case.

T-4 stated that RAFO IVANCEVIC, Yugoslav Consul General at San Francisco, has informed the Yugoslavs in San Pedro that Judge HALL's decision against the Yugoslav Government in the ARTUKOVIC matter was "framed", and that the American Government has deliberately decided not to allow extradition of ARTUKOVIC to Yugoslavia. This point of view as circulated by RAFO IVANCEVIC has gained wide credence among the Yugoslavs in the Los Angeles area, according to T-4.

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